

Message Text

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P R 220001Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

INFO USDOC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 015413

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BEXP, BTRA, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET MINISTRY OF NON-FERROUS METALLURGY
DELEGATION

REF: (A) MOSCOW 450; (B) MOSCOW 375; (C) MOSCOW 18470,
DECEMBER 29, 1975

1. DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE AND STATE APPRECIATE INFO
CONTAINED REFTEL A AND BELIEVE THAT COMMERCE ASSISTANCE
IS APPROPRIATE. SOVIETS AND U.S. FIRMS OBVIOUSLY HAVE
NOT BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT. UPON INITIAL CONTACT ALL FIRMS
WERE SOMEWHAT CONFUSED ABOUT SOVIET PURPOSE OF VISIT; SOME
LATER NOTED THAT THEY DO NOT PRODUCE ALLOYS MENTIONED IN
REFTELS AND IN TELEXES RECEIVED FROM MINISTRY.

2. COMMERCE, STATE AND OTHER AGENCIES ARE CONCERNED THAT
SOME OF TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT SOVIETS HAVE INDICATED
DESIRE TO SEE IS LIKELY TO BE SUBJECT TO SECURITY/EXPORT
CONTROLS AND QUESTION HOW MUCH COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY, AS
RESULT, CAN ACTUALLY BE TRANSACTED. COMMERCE AND STATE
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CURRENTLY CONSULTING WITH OTHER INTERESTED AGENCIES ON THIS

QUESTION.

3. FOR ABOVE REASONS, WE BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT COMMERCE HAVE COORDINATING ROLE FOR VISIT AND ARE UNWILLING TO AUTHORIZE VISAS OTHERWISE. MOREOVER, FULL EVALUATION OF COMMERCIAL POSSIBILITIES VS. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CONCERNS AND THE MECHANICS OF COORDINATING VISIT (INCLUDING ALERTING COMPANIES TO EXPORT REGULATIONS AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES) REQUIRE SOVIETS POSTPONE ETD. AWARE OF COOPERATION MINISTRY OF NON-FERROUS METALLURGY HAS SHOWN, WE WILL ORGANIZE VISIT ASAP AND KEEP EMBASSY INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

4. REQUEST EMBASSY ADVISE SOVIETS THAT COMMERCE CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF COORDINATING VISIT BUT WILL REQUIRE TIME BEYOND JANUARY 27 TO ORGANIZE SCHEDULE. SISCO

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